



CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL

CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS:
1976 - 1997

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GOVERNOR

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News Release

California Arts Council names James L. Loper, Ph.D. as new Chair

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SACRAMENTO: At the California Arts Council's March 18 public meeting, Council members elected **James L. Loper, Ph.D.** as Chairman of the California Arts Council for the next calendar year. Loper takes the gavel from Thomas Hall, who served as Chair since mid-1996. Dr. Loper has served on the California Arts Council since his appointment in 1991 by Governor Pete Wilson. He was reappointed in 1995, with his term to expire in 1999.

"I am pleased to be able to serve on the Council as its Chair. The contributions that the California Arts Council makes to artists and arts organizations throughout the State of California are extremely important. I look forward to a productive term as Chair," states Dr. Loper.

Dr. Loper is Executive Director of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences in North Hollywood, where he manages and directs the largest U.S. academy for professionals in the television industry. Famed for annually presenting the Primetime Emmy Awards, Daytime Emmy Awards, and the Television Academy Hall of Fame, ATAS's other activities include staging information forums and seminars, student awards, internships, activities for the members of the industry at large, publishing *Emmy* magazine, and supporting the work of the ATAS Foundation. Dr. Loper also serves as the Executive Director of the Academy's Foundation.

Dr. Loper also spent 19 years at KCET, Community Television of Southern California, serving as President and CEO for five years. Dr. Loper also served three terms as Chairman of the Public Broadcasting System (PBS).

Loper holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Communication from the University of Southern California; serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Southern California's School of Cinema-Television; serves as Vice President of Associated Presentations, Los Angeles; is a trustee with the International Council of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences; is a member of the Mayor's Committee for the Entertainment Industry; serves as Director of the Permanent Charities of the Entertainment Industries; and is a Trustee with the California Historical Society.

Dr. Loper and his wife, Mary Lou, live in Pasadena. They have two grown children and two granddaughters.

The **California Arts Council**, a state agency established in 1976, promotes artistic awareness and participation in California. The California Arts Council's mission is to promote the arts and serve the people of California. The Arts Council provides technical assistance and grants to artists and nonprofit organizations. Applications are reviewed and rated at public meetings by outside professional peer panels and receive final approval from the appointed 11-member Council. Arts Council members include: James L. Loper, Ph.D., Chair; Dea Spanos Berberian; Edward C. Cazier, Jr.; Iris R. Dart; Doris Fisher; Barbara George; Thomas Hall; Hugh Hewitt; Janet Karatz; David C. Lizarraga; and A.C. Lyles.

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